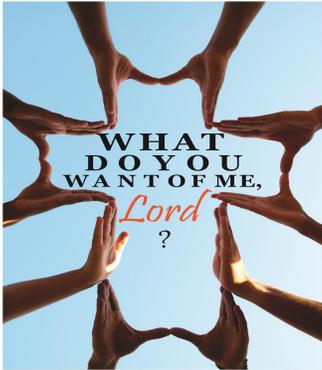


February, 2019
Volume 8, Issue 6

February Newsletter



Blessed
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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the month of hearts! February is traditionally the month associated with love and, here at St. Joseph's, we will celebrate Christian love and all the ways that it is manifested in our daily lives. Our Beatitude for this month is "Blessed are the pure in heart". We all work hard to purify

our hearts, to clear them of any malice and fill them with honesty, sincerity and truth - in other words, to make them open and ready for God. It may not be an easy task to achieve a pure heart, with all of the temptations and influences that surround us. However, that is the challenge that God has placed

before us: to spend our lives purifying our hearts to make them ready for His presence within us. During our lives, we open our hearts to so many people who cross our paths; may this love that we give and receive be a shining example of the love of God in the world.

Celebrate St. Joseph's!

On the weekend of February 9 and 10, we ask the students to wear their St. Joseph's uniforms to Mass. We will be advertising our Open House on that weekend and celebrating our school, and there is no better advertisement than our happy students! We hope that you will help your children to wear their uniforms proudly on that weekend.

Catholic Schools Week

The week of February 10 to 16 is Catholic Schools Week, during which we celebrate the privilege of being associated with Catholic Schools. On behalf of the staff, I want to thank you for the sacrifice that you make to send your children to St. Joseph's. We do not take lightly the responsibility of working with you to educate your children in the Catholic faith and we are honoured to spend our days in this pursuit. Thank you for your consistent and ongoing support.

Red Day

To celebrate Valentine's Day, we will have Red Day on Tuesday, February 12. On that day, for a minimum donation of \$2.00, the students may wear their Valentine colours (red, pink, purple, white) instead of their uniforms. With the money that we collect on that day, we will purchase farm animals for a village in a developing nation through the Chalice organization. We hope to be able to purchase several animals through your generosity!

Important Dates:

Feb. 9-10 – Celebrate St. Joseph's

Feb. 10-16 – Catholic Schools' Week

Feb. 12 – Red Day

Feb. 13 – Parent Appreciation Tea @ 1:30-2:30pm
Progress Reports sent home

Feb. 14 & 15 - CISVA Conference - **No School**

Feb. 18 – Family Day - **No School**

Feb. 21 – St. Joseph's Pub Night

Feb. 25 – Living Rosary

Feb. 26 – St. Joseph's Speech Arts Festival

Feb. 27 – Anti-Bullying Day

Feb. 28 – Student Led Conferences & Open House 10am-7:30pm

Parent Appreciation Tea

Our celebration tea will be held on Tuesday, February 13 from 1:30-2:30pm in the school gym. It is open to parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles – anyone who is part of our life at St. Joseph's! There will be tea and coffee and the teachers will provide the sweet treats. An invitation will follow soon.

St. Joseph's Pub Night

Come and celebrate our community on Thursday, February 21 by sharing a casual meal and some good conversation. Our pub night will take place at East Side Craft House (1445 East 41st Avenue, at Knight Street) from 6:00pm-9:00pm.

Living Rosary

Please come and meditate upon the Luminous Mysteries as we pray the Living Rosary at our assembly on Monday, February 25 at 9:00am. Our

Communicating Student Learning

The Student Progress Reports for the first term will be sent home on Wednesday, February 13. Should you have any questions or require further discussion after reading the report, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Catholic Educators' Conference

Please be reminded that the school will be closed on Thursday and Friday, February 14 and 15, as the staff will attend the Catholic Educators' Conference.

Family Day

The provincial holiday, Family Day, will be on Monday, February 18. The school will be closed on that day.

St. Joseph's Speech Arts Festival

On Tuesday, February 26, we will hold our local Speech Arts Festival. We will have the primary categories of Bible Reading, Poetry Recitation and Prose Recitation and the intermediate category of Bible Reading. In addition, all classes will present their group poems. We will begin promptly at 10:30am in the school gym with the individual events and at 1:00pm for the group events. We hope that many parents will come to celebrate the spoken word with us.

Anti-Bullying Day!

On February 27, the St. Joseph's School community will stand up against bullying, as part of the province-wide initiative. The students will wear pink clothes to indicate their willingness to prevent bullying from entering our school. We hope that all students will choose to participate in this important day by wearing pink; however, if they choose not to wear pink, they must wear their school uniforms. Clothing that is not pink is not acceptable.

Parking Lot Safety

We ask once again that families respect our car-free times on the parking lot. **It is not permissible to drive on the parking lot between the hours of 7:30am and 5:00pm.** We make this rule in order to keep our children safe, so please adhere to our request. Thank you very much.

Thursday, February 28th 10:00am-7:30pm Student Led Conferences/ Open House

Each student will have the opportunity to show all of their work to their parents during our student-led conferences on Thursday, February 28 from 10:00am until 7:30pm. More information will follow soon, and families will have the opportunity to request their preferred times. Regular classes will not be held on this day.

In addition, we will host our second Open House for prospective families on that day. When you come for your conference, please bring a friend and show them our terrific school. We are looking for families to come to kindergarten, and we also have room in the other grades as well. Please help us to promote our school!

Re-Registration Packages and Kindergarten Registration has begun!

Re-registration packages will be sent home soon and must be **returned before February 28th.** **NOTE: Completed Re-Registration packages will only be accepted with accompanying \$60 Activity Fee, Registration Fees (for Kindergarten siblings) and Post-dated cheques. Please be sure to initial the Anaphylaxis and Earthquake Forms.**

Families returning their completed Re-registration on time, will be entered in a draw for a \$50 Neat Uniform Gift Certificate! If you have family or friends wishing to register their children in St. Joseph's School for the 2019/2020 school year please encourage them to contact the school office as soon as possible. Children born in 2014 are old enough to begin kindergarten in September. Registration time is always a busy time each year. If you need a registration package, they are available in the school office.

Thank You!

Many thanks for your generous support of our annual Catholic Charities fundraiser on Pyjama and Popcorn Day. Together, we raised \$710 which will be combined with funds raised in all the Catholic schools and donated to Catholic Charities, which supports the marginalized and those who are less fortunate in our Archdiocese.

Sacraments

Our students in grade two will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Thursday, May 23 at 7:00pm and the Sacrament of the Eucharist on Saturday, May 25 at the 5:00pm parish Mass. Our grade seven students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, June 13 at 7:00pm. Please keep all of these students in your prayers as they continue their journeys toward these momentous faith milestones.

Income Tax

The office will be sending home Income Tax receipts for tuition expenses paid during 2018 with the Re-Registration Packages for returning families, or with the Progress Reports for our grade seven families. Parents are also welcome to pick up their receipts in the office if they wish. Our school system has

been able to issue Income Tax receipts for tuition paid since 1998. This income tax receipt is to be claimed as a **charitable donation** on your income tax return. In order to do so, please enter the amount of the tax receipt on line 349 (Charitable Donations) of your income tax return.

School Raffle

Raffle tickets will be sent home soon. We have wonderful cash prizes this year, so watch out for your chance to win! Thank you for your support once again this year.

Social Media

A reminder to follow St. Joseph's School on Facebook@stjosephvancouver, Instagram@saintjosephsschool and Twitter@SaintJosephsSc1. We welcome parents to write reviews on Facebook and for our website! Reviews for our website can be emailed to stjosephsvancouver@telus.net